

VZCZCXYZ0000  
RR RUEHWEB

DE RUEHVI #1808 3460754  
ZNY CCCCC ZZH  
R 110754Z DEC 08  
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 1645  
RHEBAAA/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHDC  
INFO RUCNSG/NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS GROUP COLLECTIVE

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 001808

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 12/10/2023  
TAGS: [ENRG](#) [ETTC](#) [KNNP](#) [MNUC](#) [PARM](#) [TRGY](#) [AU](#)  
SUBJECT: AUSTRIA ON AMENDING NSG GUIDELINES FOR ENR TRANSFER

REF: (A) STATE 126581 (B) VIENNA 1664

Classified By: Econ/Pol Counselor Dean Yap. Reason: 1.4(b) and (d)

¶1. (C) Austrian MFA Non-Proliferation Director Alexander Marschik and IAEA Unit Head Andreas Launer reported Dec. 10 that, though the MFA supports the unbracketed text of the proposed revised text for NSG Guidelines paras 6 and 7, the Austrian Economics Ministry and, especially, the Environment Ministry are strongly opposed. (Note: The Economics Ministry has the formal lead on this issue, as an energy matter.) Marschik reported that there will be a final Austrian inter-agency meeting on Friday morning, Dec. 12, to hammer out the Austrian position. He and Launer were confident that Austria at the end of the day would support the unbracketed text, which they acknowledged as an important package that advanced non-proliferation goals. They implied, however, that if there is substantial support for extending the silence procedure on Dec. 12, Austria would probably join that group.

¶2. (C) Marschik and Launer described Austrian concerns as based on the possible weakening of the IAEA's Additional Protocol (AP) and its universalization because of the acceptance in paragraph 6ii of other arrangements that are not equivalent to the safeguards provided by the AP. Launer noted that he had specifically asked the IAEA for its assessment of the Argentine-Brazilian arrangement and was told it was not equivalent to the AP. Launer also reported that the European Commission has made a similar statement.

¶3. (C) Marschik and Launer reported that Austria would have to make an explanatory statement that was critical of the acceptance of arrangements other than the AP when it does agree to the revision.  
GIRARD-DICARLO